TO THE RIGHT *HONORABLE* the *Lords* & *Commons* Assembled in

Parliament

The humble *Petition* of Major *Hercules Langrish* and *Olympbas* his *Wife* (of the Right *Honourable Family du Plessys in France*) in behalfe of themselves, and of their sonnes Captaine *Hercules* and Cornet *Lucinius*.

Most Humbly Sheweth

THat your Petitioners have at severall times furnished great summes and used their best endeavours, for the good of this state, to their exceeding great prejudice; and that the said Major, and his two sonnes (waving all other imployments though very Honorable and Lucrative) have served the *Parliament* as Commanders in this warre, for the just defence of our Religion and Liberties, from the first undertaking thereof, and according, to the uttermost of their care, skill, and ability, have performed their duties, and observed all just, and reasonable commands, with all possible diligence, fidelity, and alacrity; Howbeit your Petitioner being in *Brisoll* at the unhappy surrender thereof (though he exposed himselfe there, to more paines then his weake condition (occasioned by hurts receaved at *Round-downe*) could beare, and to much more danger then his charge called him unto; yet many scandalous aspertions, both in print, and otherwise, have beene raysed and cast upon him, not onely by some who detaine most unjustly your Petitioners Lands, and Goods, and by such as he hath executed his superiors orders on, but by severall other malevolent, and ill affected persons, who (to cover their owne demerits, for which they should have beene questioned before a councell of Warre in the West, but were not, by reason of their [illegible]

fame, and payment of ſuch monies, as they owe your Petitioner) have moſt unworthily combined, and by way of recrimination, endeavoured to ſtaine his reputation, with moſt egregious calumnies, and by ſuch detractions to bring Him, and His under the odium, obloquy, and diſeſteeme of the State, the ſad conſequence whereof hath occaſioned in theſe evill times wherein men are more prone to beleeve evill reports then good, not onely his diſgrace though moſt undeſervedly, but alſo a delaye of pay both for himſelfe and whole troope ever ſince the 14 of *March* 1642, the dammage whereof cheifly falleth upon your Petitioner, (who hath not onely diſburſed of what ſhould have paid his debts, ſupplyed his own occaſions, and ſuſtained his family, but borrowed of his freinds (at the earneſt intreaty of his ſuperior officers and upon their promiſes to repay it in a ſhort time) mony for the maintenance of himſelfe and troope for thirteene weekes compleate of the ſaid time, and furniſhed, it afterwards, with all ſuch ſupplies and accommodations, as he could by any faire and honeſt meanes procure, for the better inabling him, to doe ſuch ſervices as have been impoſed on him, by them, wherein your Petitioner hath beene alwayes moſt ſucceſſefull when he was left to his owne wayes, and ſtratagems, as at *Sherborne*, *Portland*, *Abbots-bury*, *Maimeſberry* &c. But not unto us, to God be the glory of all, yet notwithſtanding have they not paid, or cauſed to be repaid any part thereof. but ſome of them have rather inſtigated your Petitioners Creditors (though more properly theirs, or the States then his) to uſe extremity againſt him, ſo that he hath beene neceſſitated to pay ſome, and is much importuned for the reſt, by ſuch as are indeed neceſſitous, and is much threatned by others, nay to be caſt in priſon ſuddenly for it, all which your Petitioner, hath often and by divers meanes intimated, to the Right Honourable the Earle of *Eſſex*, the Committee for the ſafety, and the Councell of Warre, whom he hath often attended, and petitioned for redreſſe of theſe and other greivances (more fully expreſſed in the Relation annexed) of all which, in reſpect ſometimes of his Honours more ſerious affaires, and his Advocats abſence, *M. Walkers* and *M. Prinns* refuſall of a tryall, when it was offered them, in *Dec.* 1643, and their not proſecuting ſince, or by meanes of ſome other obſtructions unknowne to your Petitioner, he hath as yet reaped no benefit thereby, to His and His Families utter ruine, if not ſpedily prevented, by the Clemency of this *Honourable Court*, for theſe delayes, non-performances, and procraſtinations, have forced him ſo to overracke his credit, that it can extend no further, either for the diſingagement, and recovery of his lands, and goods here, and in *France*, or ſo much as for the preſent ſuſtenance of himſelfe or any of his, who are tenne in number, and muſt all periſh if not ſpeedily ſupplyed, they being at preſent deprived, and diſpoſſeſſed of all meanes of ſubſiſtance, by potent enemies, and incenced adverſaries, both here, and in France, who menace aloud all their diſtructions.

Wherefore your Petitioners *having ſuffered much both here, and there a long time in many reſpects, for ſervice done this State, and your* Petitioner *being deſirous to undeceave the world concerning the premiſes, eſpecially the members of this* Honorable Court (*by the equity of whoſe juſtice he is ambitious to ſtand or fall*) *being confident that they will be as prone to vindicate the innocent, and releive the op-*

That some present mony may be allotted your Petitioners, for their and their Families subsistance, and satisfaction of their most necessitous and importunate creditors and that a Committee may be nominated, and appointed, aswell to examine their losses, as the manner of his and their demeanours, in all services since their first undertaking thereof, as also for the examination of the matters in the annexed, and of all such greivances, and articles, as your Petitioners shall exhibite to the said Committee and that likewise and order may be made for the auditing their accounts, that upon report thereof made by the Committee to this *Honorable* Court, your Petitioners may be in some measure satisfied for all their losses, repaired in point of honour, and receive their Disbursements and Arreares, or otherwise have the publicke Faith for some, and an Ordinance for the rest, to raise it out of notorious Malignants, and Delinquents Estates, as they have or shall discover in, or within sixtie miles of *London*, being confident to bring in great profit thereby, to the State, or at lest-wise out of one halfe therof, and the other halfe with the remainder of the first, (if any shall be) to be disposed, and disbursed on Horse and Armes, for the Defence of *Hampshire*, *Surrey*, and *Sussex*, by the direction of the *Committees* for the Southerne Association, and that the judicature may be referred to one of the *Committees* for Sequestration, either in *London* or *Westminster*, for what is and shall be discovered therein, and for the rest, to the *Committees* in the respective Counties as shal seem best to this Honorable Court, that they may goe on cheerefully in the said Service, the which they desire to advance to the utmost of their Lives and Fortunes, and for that end and purpose (being by all, or any of these wayes and overtures satisfied) and your Petitioner vindicated in his Honour) will raise a hundred Horse and men, to add to those so raised, and hazard therwithall their Lives and Fortunes freely and faithfully in the *Parliaments* service, which otherwayes they are utterly disabled to doe, for the present; however noe sufferings, or discouragements shall ever alienate their affections from so just and pious a Cause, but they shall, and will actuate in Defence and furtherance thereof, in all wayes, and conditions be they never so dangerous, that this Honorable Court shall appoint; and for proofe hereof, the said Captaine is gone as a Voluntiere to his Excellency, Sir *Thomas Fairefax*, under whose Counmand he still remaines, being unwilling to omit any opportunity, whereby he may manifest his devotion to the Cause, and as for the Major and Cornet they shall continually wrestle with God, by their prayers, for blessings on the Parliament, and fight in defence, and for the advancement thereof, when they shall, by their Orders, be designed thereunto.

And they shall ever pray &c.

To the Right Honourable the *Lords* & *Commons*

A more full Relation of greiuances and demeanours, or rather representation thereof, made by Major *Hercules Langrish*, both for himselfe, and his Wife *Olimphas* as also for his Sonns Captaine *Hercules*, and Cornet *Lucullus*, and likewise of their most humble requests and offers.

Sheweth

THat the said Major (hath ever since the age of twenty yeares) had such a just and wel-grounded disesteeme of Popery, and the maine pillar thereof (Prelacy) that no allurements, or promises (either of profit or honour) made unto him here or in France, could so farre prevaile with him, as to incite him to concurre with any, for the increase and advancement thereof, but such spirituall comfort, & soule-consolation, did he about that age reape, by his conversation with Presbyterians there, that he at that age resolved (by Gods blessed assistance) to live, and dye in defence of the Protestant Religion, as it is established dependent, under the Presbyterian Government, and about the age of three and twentie yeares married (for his better and more contented establishment therein,) *Olympas du Plesseys* his now consort, who had beene educated alwayes according to the government and discipline thereof, and was so well instructed therein, and in the worship and doctrines thereof, that no perswasion could divert her from it, and accordingly they have both lived ever since, notwithstanding many very considerable, and earnest temptations, and suggestions to the contrary; but the glory of God, and the good of his church having ever beene the cheifest directories for their thoughts, and actions, have not onely incited them, to expend much of their fortunes for the advancement thereof in forraigne parts, but the said Major often to hazard his life in defence thereof, yet was still most elaborate and vigilent to lay hold on all opportunities, to serve this his native country, aswell in all civill respects, and relations; as also for the propagation, and settlement thereof, in this kingdome; whereby he hath attracted on himselfe, and his, not onely the implacable malice of Papists and their younger brothers the Prelatists, but also of Separatists, and Scismaticks, who have laboured, and combined to ruine him for it, in his repute, by traducing and aspersing him most unjustly, whereas otherwise, Hee might now have beene Master of a faire estate, and in very honourable imployments, either here or in other parts, but the said Major, aswell as his Wife, ayming more at the glory of God, and this countries good,

tending to the dishonour of the first, and prejudice of the latter, and have so freely sacrificed their fortunes in defence of them, that they have not onely diminished their estates thereby eight thousand pounds, but the said Major hath often exposed his person so freely in defence thereof, that he hath almost lost the use of his limmes, with his place at Court of Carver in Ordinary to the *Queenes Majesty*, and that since the beginning of these warres as the said Major offers to justifie, and to manifest unto all the world, that both Hee, and his Sonnes have ever since the first undertaking thereof, demeaned themselves most obedientially, carefully, and conscienciously in al imployments, and encounters; nay successefully, and to the Parliaments great profit and advantage in all services, for the execution whereof, they were left to their owne wayes, nay had the Majors advices, and directions beene followed, by his superiour Officers in divers places, many more Townes and Castles had beene taken, and those losses and dishonours which have befallen our forces had beene prevented and avoyded, especially at *Wells*, the *Devises*, and the day of the fight (or rather flight) at *Roun-downe*, where the Major was left as dead (and the Cornet unhorsed, and very much bruised yet got off most miraculously) but afterwards the Major was brought againe to life, by one *Fox-crofts* meanes, and by him was conducted to *Bristoll*, where he exposed himselfe, all the time of the Seige to more paines, and danger, then either his weake, and cripled state of body could beare, or his charge, and orders required him to doe, and although hee was noe wayes culpable of the Surrender thereof, or conscious so much as of the smallest crime, or neglect committed there or elsewhere at any time, but did his utmost in Defence thereof then, as at all other times) till he was by the Counsell of Warre commanded of his post, and sent as hostage with Captaine *Riply* to the Enemy,) yet many vile aspersions, and loud untruths, both in Print, and otherwise, have been raised, and cast upon the Major, by malignant and ill deserving men, not onely to keep from light their owne demerits, and themselves from condigne punishment for the same, but also to exempt themselves from payment of such monyes as they owe, and are by many wayes indebted to the Major, as also for Plate and other things, put into some of their hands, to satisfie him, and the Forces, that were under his Command in *Dorsetshiere*; for service there done by them, and all this likewise to bring him, into the ill opinion, and hatred both of the *Parliament*, as also of all other men; but especially of the Earle of *Essex* whom he often most earnestly petitioned, and attended, ever since his comming from *Bristoll*, as also the Counsell of VVarre, and the Committee of safety, for redresse of these greivances, of all which (in respect sometimes of his Honours more important imployments, his Advocates absence, Master *Walkers* and Master *Prins* refusall of a Triall, when it was offered in *Dec.* 1643, and their not prosecuting since, the Majors extreem long sickneſſe, and lameneſſe occasioned by reason of his hurts received at *Roundowne*, and the *Committee* for the safeties not sitting of late, or by some other obstructions unknowne to the Major, he hath as yet received no benefit thereby, the ill effects whereof have occasioned a delay of the pay for himselfe and Troup

ſue ever ſince the 14. of *March* 1642, the dammage whereof chiefly, nay almoſt totally, falleth upon the Major, (who hath diſburſed at ſeverall times, and for ſeverall ſervices, and borowed of his friends (at the earneſt intreaty of his ſuperior Officers, and of ſome *Committee* men, and upon their Vowes, and Proteſtations, to repay all in a ſhort time) mony for the payment of his Troupe, for 13 weekes compleat of the time, he and they remain unpayed, and all for the better enabling him and them, to performe ſuch ſervices, as have been impoſed on him by ſome of them, ſince that time, yet have none of them payed, or cauſed to be repaied any part thereof, but (after many diſcouragements, indignities, and open injuries received from ſome of them, not to be ſo long digeſted were they not *Parliament* men, or dependent thereon and offered by them, in a time, that all men doe paſſe as well by evill reports as good) the Major hath been neceſſitated, to pay ſome part thereof, and is much importuned for the reſt, nay menaced with impriſonment for ſome part thereof, by ſuch as neither can or will forbeare it, any longer, and as for thoſe monyes the Major hath diſburſed of his owne, and ſhould have received againe in *London* two yeates ſince, by bill of exchange, he hath received no part thereof, though there was an Order made in *Parliament*, for payment thereof to his Aſſignes, about that time, the detention whereof hath not onely occaſioned him, to lie long under a black cloud of infamie and reproach, (whereunto the beſt men are now moſt ſubject) but alſo to ſuffer much in his credit, Perſon, Eſtate, and Family, not having had any monies (ſince his returne from *Briſtoll* to ſuſtaine it, or himſelfe in his ſickneſſe, with his ſonne the Cornet (who hath been likewiſe very ſicke and much incommodated in his health ever ſince his hurts received at *Round Downe*) but what he hath borrowed, and muſt ſuddenly repay, or ſuffer for it, ſo that they have not onely ſuffered much penurie, infamie and miſerie thereby, but the Major hath been diſabled to proſecute ſuch as doe moſt unjuſtly detaine from him his Lands, and goods, in this Kingdome and Citie, but that which is moſt prejudiciall, and onerous to the Major, his wife, and all his, is, that the non payment of five hundred pounds to a French man about a yeare ſince, he having long before that time diſburſed thrice as much for the *Parliament*, all the majors wives Lands, and goods in *France* to the value of ſix thouſand pounds at leaſt, are by him, and others ſeaſed on moſt unjuſtly, for upon a iuſt examination it will appear, that there is nothing due unto them, yet his ſaid wife is not only diſpoſſed and deprived thereof, but alſo of one of their daughters, who was taken from her, by violence, and is put into a Nunnerie by force, not being above twelve yeares of age, and ſo had been another of their daughters, of thirteen yeares, had not his ſaid wife brought her away, thorough by-wayes, to the great hazard of their lives, both by Sea, and Land; and all this, that the Major his wife, and other children, may for ever be fruſtated of their ſaid Lands, and goods, which otherwiſe would be unpoſſible for to effect, and at whoſe inſtigation al this hath bin done may not be onely eaſily conjectured, but evidently manifeſted ——

It it would pleaſe this Honourable Houſe to commemorate, what hath beene diſcovered at ſeverall times by the Major to Maſter *Pim*, Maſter *Hamden*, and

municated at *Westminster* on the Fourth of *January*, 1642 and on the Seaventh thereof at *Grocers-Hall*, all which (though the obliged effects of his bounden duties) yet have so incensed, many now in *France*, aswell as here against the said Major, that they doe not onely, threaten to murther him, but to ruine: His, so that no meanes will be left unessayed for the effecting thereof by causing the said lands, and goods, to be sold for little. or by setling them upon the Nunnery, the which will be so, if not speedily prevented by the Clemencie of this Court, in supplying their wants. protecting still the Majors person, and vouchsafing their Letters of recommendation to the Queene Regent for the releasement of their said daughter.

Now forasmuch as your Petitioners have beene so farre from disserving this State, that they have chosen rather then so, to suffer a long time in their persons, credits and estates, and that the Major hath thought it to be more conducing to the advantage thereof, to suffer for a time, in his reputation, being sicke and weake, then to make more breaches therein, by questioning such as had meanes to availe it; or to make sporte at Oxford, and forasmuch likewise as some of his calumniators, fearing that the truth of the premises (notwithstanding theire there endeavours to the contrary) would be brought to light: to prevent it, have not onely most ungratefullie and unworthilie traduced the Maior to damnifie him in all the waies and particulars above specified, but set on some of their servants and followers to murther him in the Streets at night and still threaten to effect it.

That your Petitioners, their sonnes, and whole Family, may not be utterly ruined by your longer detention of the moneys due unto them, and that the World may be undeceaved in the Premises, and know the faithfullnesse care, and worth, of the Major and his, and his sonnes demeanours in all services, and the demerits of his traducers, and accusers, and what summes are due unto him from them, aswell as from the State, and likewise that they may be brought to condigne punishment for the same, and to pay the Major, all that is justly oweing unto him by them, and that he may receive againe all those monies he so spontaniously disburst, and borrowed for them, and the State, and so freely imployed for it and them, often to the great hazard of his life, as also that his sonnes, may receive such summes as are due unto them and the rather, because they have brought in, for the use of the State considerable sums that they have taken from the Enemy, whereof they have had no share, nor the Major neither, of the great summes made of Prisoners Estates, taken in *Bristoll*, *Portland*, &c.

They most humbly pray,

That a Committee may be appoynted to examine all the Premises, and the Authors, to take the Majors, and his sonnes accounts, and that he may not only be vindicated in his Honour but reimbursed such monyes as he hath borrowed, and layed out of his owne, and his wives for the publicke Service. and that they and their Family may be eased of the extraordinary pressures they now lie under, and the rather because the Major, and the said Cornet sustained great losses at *Edge-Hill*, whilst they were fighting there, and at *Bristoll* whilst the Major was in Hostage, in all to the

of eight hundred pounds, and likewise, for that the said Captaine hath suffered great losses, when he was in the VVest with the Earle of Essex, and hath no lesse than the said Major disbursed great summes in recruting often, all which, have so impoverished, the Major and his sonnes, that they can doe the State little service for the present, wanting convenient Equipage so to doe, to their extreeme griefe, and therefore that they may goe on with the Service, the which they desire to advance, to the uttermost of their lives, and Fortunes, most earnestly pray againe, that if present money cannot be had suddenly, to satisfie them the whole of their due, at least wise some considerable summe, may be forthwith given them, to supply their present urgent occasions, and that an Ordinance may be granted, for the raising of the rest out of Papists, Malignants, and Delinquents Estates, already discovered by the Major, or that shall hereafter be discovered by him, or them, in *London*, or within sixtie miles thereof; as shall seeme best to this Honourable Court, and that the judicature thereof may be referred as is specified in the annexed Petition, and out of the whole the Major will furnish a hundred Horse, for the States service, and he, and his sonnes will adventure their Lives therewithall, and live, and die in Defence thereof, and take the publick Faith for the value of the said Horse, to serve the *Parliament* in any other way, or condition as shall seeme best to this Honourable Court; And for asmuch as Master *Pim* of the black-Bull in Bishopsgate-streete, hath most illegally, and (before an account given by him to the Major, of what was due unto him, for billiting him, his Officers and Troupers,) and during the Maiors great sickneſse and lameneſse) ceased on his Horses, Clothes, Armes, and whole equipage, and hath since disposed of some, (at farre undervalues,) and detaineth still the rest, notwithstanding the Major hath given him his owne, for more money, then can be due unto him, in all, his humble supplicttion therefore is, that some speedy course may be taken to compell the said *Pim* to bring in his accounts, that he may receive what is justly due unto him, and that he may be injoyned forthwith to restore to the Major his whole equipage that on all occasions, he may be provided to hazard his Life, the more advantagiously in defence of Gods and his Countries cause.

And they shall ever pray, &c.